

B-3492 - B-3504

1842-1880/1872

143-103 E. Cross St. (South side)/ 124-126 Weber St. (North side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

The south side of the 100 block of E. Cross St. is one of the most interesting blocks in the southern section of Federal Hill, containing as it does almost every variety of house type built in the area between the 1840's and the 1880's. At 139-143 E. Cross St., at the eastern end of the block, there is a row of late Victorian style, two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices. The houses, which sit on high basements, with basement kitchens, were built just before 1880. To the west, at 137 E. Cross St. there is a similar two story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof, but with no extant roof cornice, built about the same time. 135 and 133 E. Cross St. have been torn down, but at 131 E. Cross there is a two and a half story, two bay wide, late Federal style brick house located next to a pair of similar two and a half story frame houses at 127-129 E. Cross St. The survival of a frame house in this section of the city is quite unusual. All three houses seem to have been built in the 1840's or 1850's. Continuing west, one encounters a pair of two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses at 123-125 E. Cross St., built about 1850; a late Victorian style, two story, three bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice at 121 E. Cross St., an 1880's remodeling of an original 1840's house; and, at 117-119 E. Cross St., a pair of originally two story, two bay wide gable-roofed houses built in the mid 1840's, one of which (117) has since been enlarged and is now three stories in height with a shed roof and bracketed cornice. At 113-115 E. Cross St. there is another pair of two story plus attic brick houses, built in the mid 1840's by John S. Gittings, and at 111 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed house built by Gittings in the early 1850's. Further west, at 109 E. Cross St. there is yet another two story plus attic house, followed by a pair of two and a half story, two bay wide, late Federal style brick houses at 105-107 E. Cross St., and then another two story plus attic house at 103 E. Cross St. The four latterly described houses were all built in the early 1840's by William Addison, a local house carpenter. At 124-126 Weber St., there is a pair of two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, built in 1872 by Charles and Augustus Weber, leaders of the German community in Baltimore at this time. The houses are the only survivors of an original row of such houses built along the north side of Weber St. at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

137 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This two story, two bay brick house with shed roof is the second structure to occupy this site, replacing a two story, gable roofed house probably quite similar to 131 Cross St., and perhaps even frame like 127-129 Cross St.. The house has been covered with formstone.

The house is two stories in height, 15' wide, and occupies a lot 51 1/2' deep. There is a two story high, two bay deep rear addition, followed by a two story high, one bay deep frame addition and a one story high, two bay deep frame addition. The house is probably constructed in running bond but the facade has been covered with formstone. The shed roof has no cornice. There is a single covered chimney located along the west side of the house and a rear end chimney located at the south end of the brick addition.

The original treatment of the door and window lintels and sills is hidden by the formstone covering but it is apparent that all of the openings originally had segmentally arched brick lintels with scroll-sawed tympanums. The sills are currently brick header sills but they may be contemporary with the formstone covering. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. There is a Mission-style door set beneath a single light transom. The house sits on a high basement, the entrance being reached by four brick steps. A rectangular basement opening is located to the right of the steps. A flat-roofed alleyway runs back under the westernmost bay of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1870-1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William J. Cole?

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See under 139-143 E. Cross St.

Cole obtained this lot in 1866 and apparently built the house some years later. It undoubtedly originally had a cornice that resembled that at 139 E. Cross St.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Land Records, Liber AM 300, Folio 502

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15' x 51'6"

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

STREET &amp; NUMBER

5/79

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

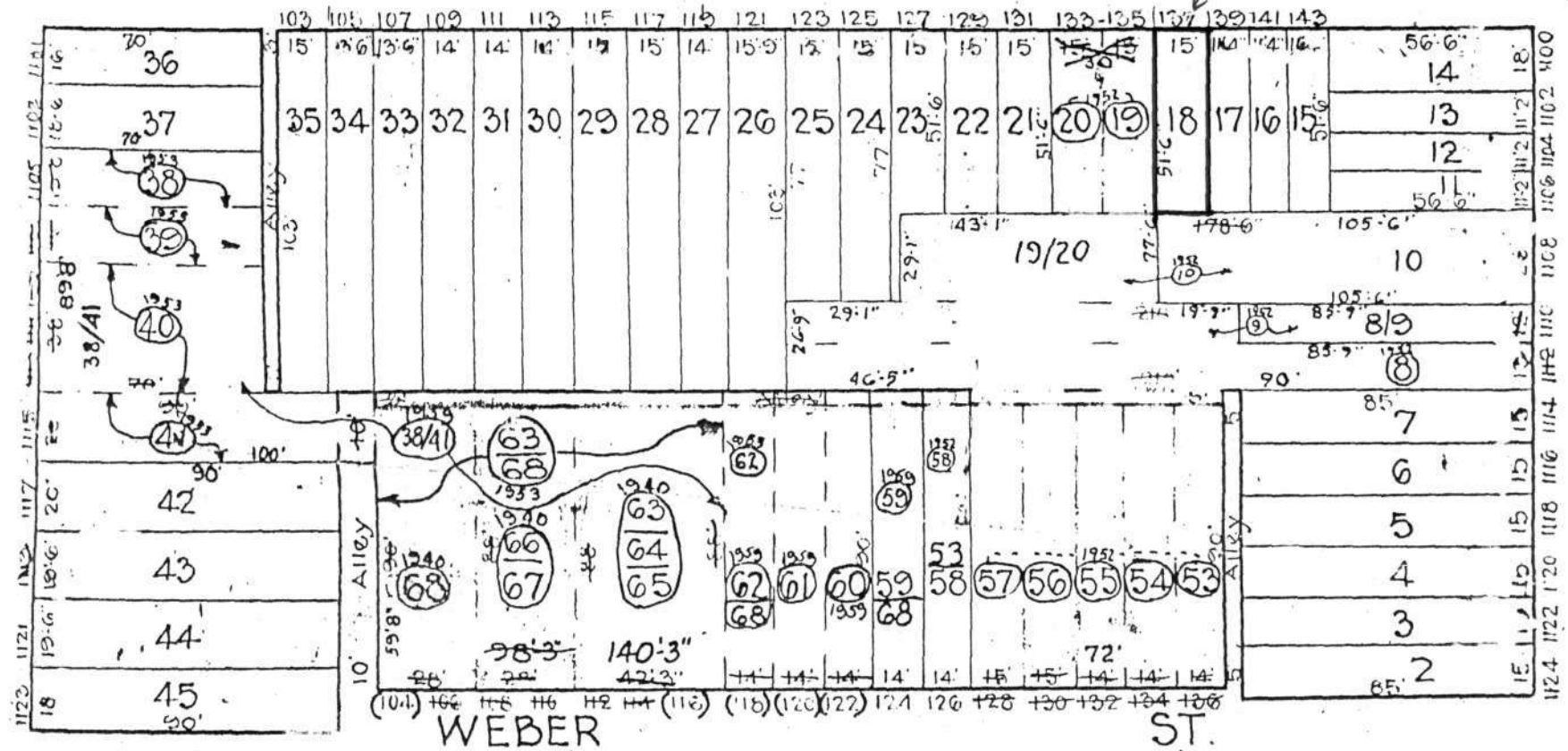
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

B-3493

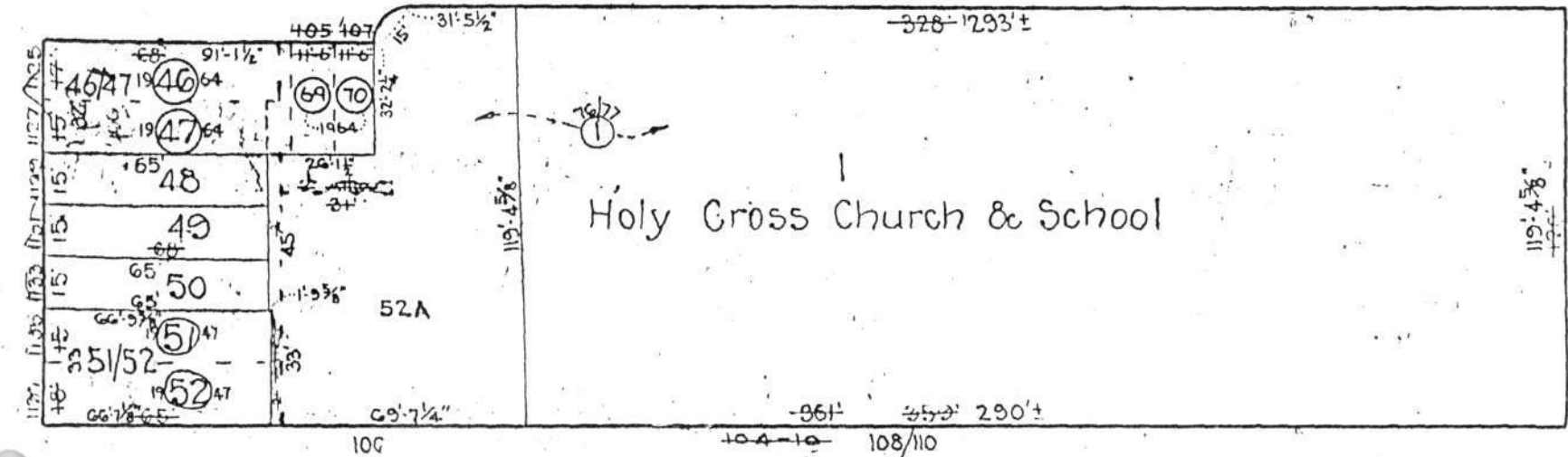
E. CROSS

B-3493

ST.



LIGHT



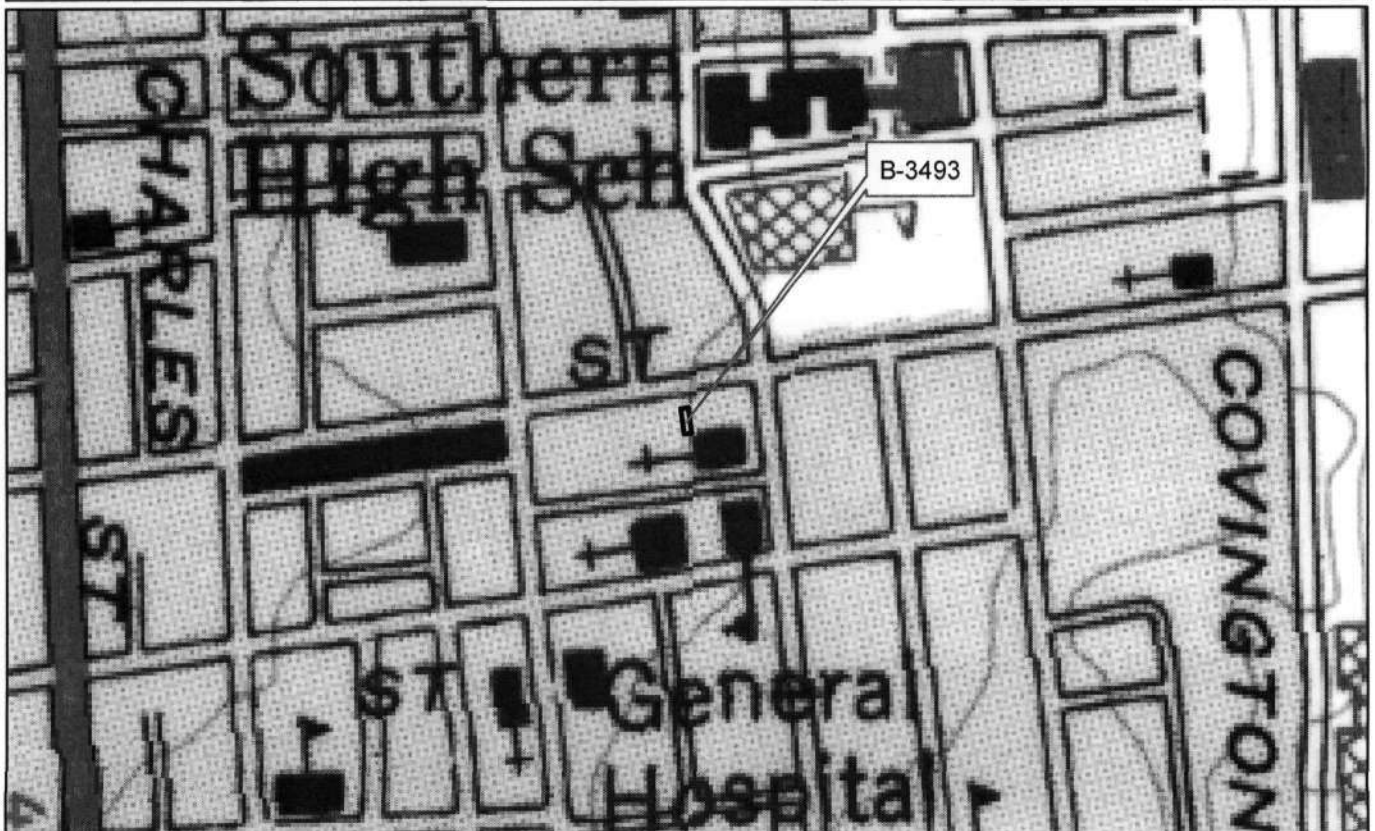
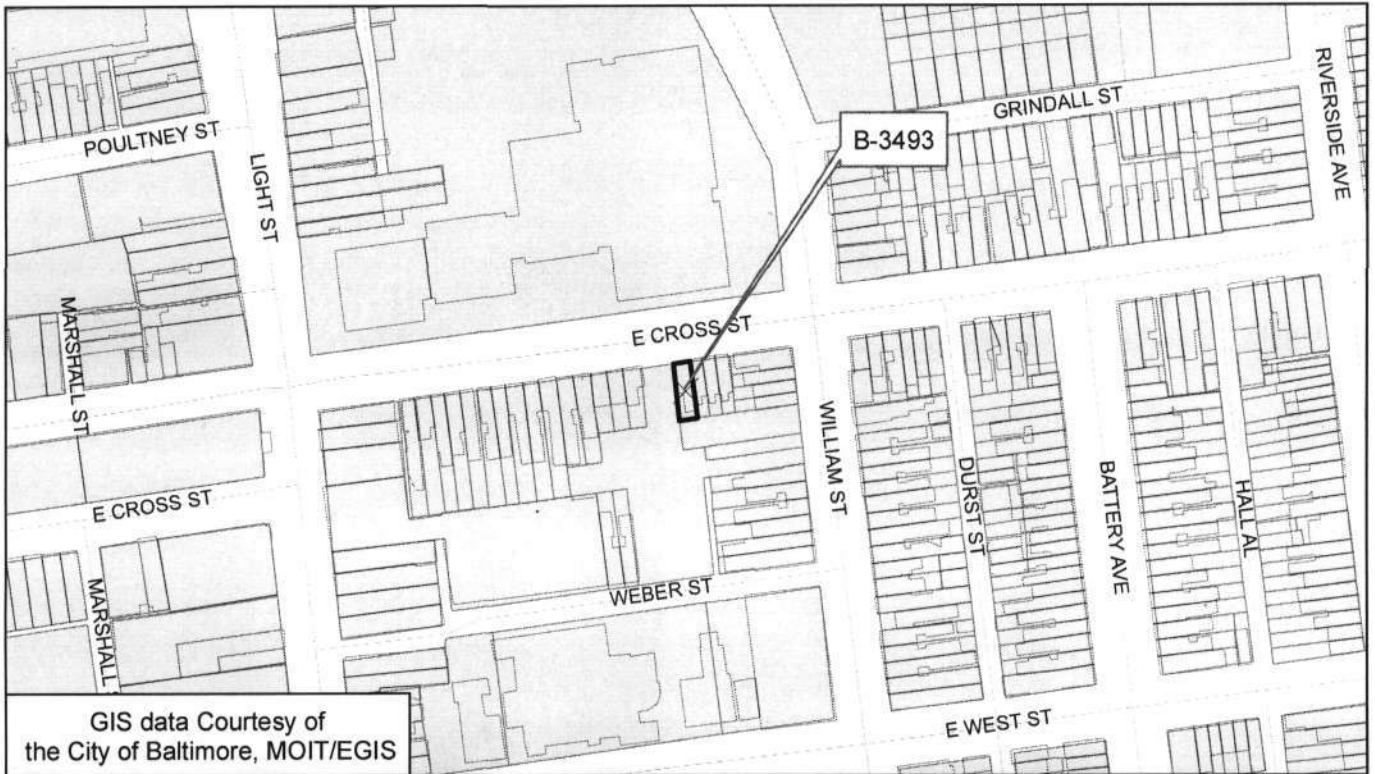
E. WEST

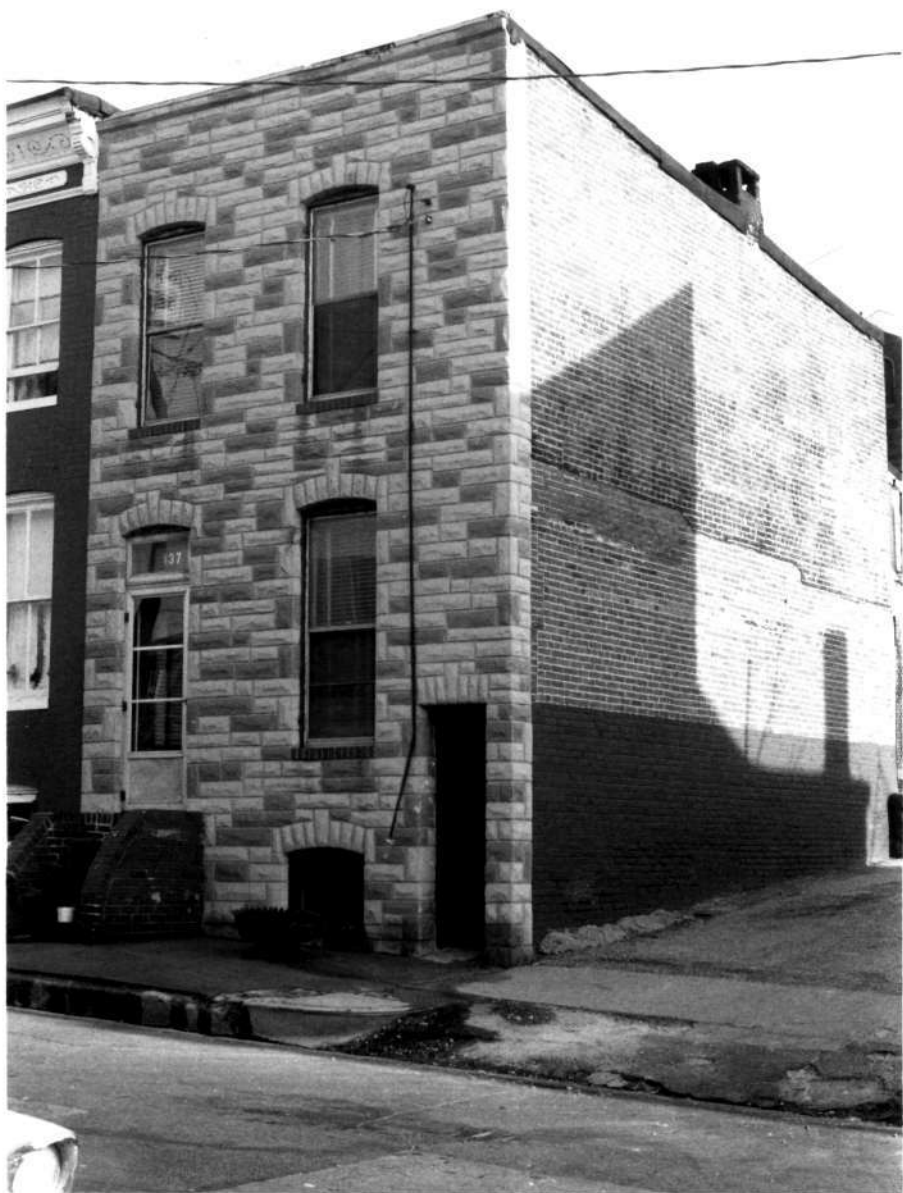
ST.

ST.

WILLIAM

B-3493  
137 E. Cross Street  
Block 0951 Lot 018  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3493

137 E. Cross St.

-M.E.H.

5/79

North elevation